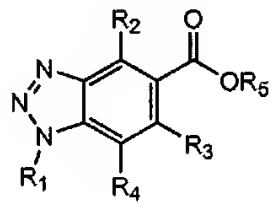
Amendments to the Claims:

Please cancel claim 21 and add new claim 29. Please amend claims 3-12, 21, 26, and 27 as shown herein. This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Previously presented) A compound of Formula (I):



(I)

wherein:

R_1 is C_{1-8} alkyl, C_{3-6} cycloalkyl or C_{1-6} haloalkyl, wherein the C_{1-8} alkyl, C_{3-6} cycloalkyl and C_{1-6} haloalkyl groups are optionally substituted with 1, 2, 3 or 4 substituents selected from the group consisting of C_{1-6} acyl, C_{1-6} acyloxy, C_{2-6} alkenyl, C_{1-6} alkoxy, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} alkylcarboxamido, C_{2-6} alkynyl, C_{1-6} alkylsulfinyl, C_{1-6} alkylsulfonyl, C_{1-6} alkylthio, C_{1-6} alkylureyl, amino, C_{1-6} alkylamino, aryl, substituted aryl, C_{1-6} dialkylamino, carbo C_{1-6} alkoxy, carboxy, cyano, C_{3-6} cycloalkyl, C_{1-6} dialkylcarboxamido, halogen, C_{1-6} haloalkoxy, C_{1-6} haloalkyl, C_{1-6} haloalkylsulfinyl, C_{1-6} haloalkylsulfonyl, C_{1-6} haloalkylthio, heteroaryl, heterocyclyl, hydroxyl, nitro and thiol;

R_2, R_3 and R_4 are each independently selected from the group consisting of H, C_{1-6} acyl, C_{1-6} acyloxy, C_{2-6} alkenyl, C_{1-6} alkoxy, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} alkylcarboxamido, C_{2-6} alkynyl, C_{1-6} alkylsulfinyl, C_{1-6} alkylsulfonyl, C_{1-6} alkylthio, C_{1-6} alkylureyl, amino, C_{1-6} alkylamino, C_{1-6} dialkylamino, carbo C_{1-6} alkoxy, carboxy, cyano, C_{3-6} cycloalkyl, C_{1-6} dialkylcarboxamido, halogen, C_{1-6} haloalkoxy, C_{1-6} haloalkyl, C_{1-6} haloalkylsulfinyl, C_{1-6} haloalkylsulfonyl, C_{1-6} haloalkylthio, hydroxyl, nitro and thiol; and

R_5 is H or C_{1-6} alkyl; or

a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, solvate or hydrate thereof;

provided that:

a) when R_5 is ethyl, and R_2, R_3 and R_4 are H then R_1 is not methyl or triphenylmethyl;

b) when R_5 is n-pentyl, and R_2, R_3 and R_4 are H then R_1 is not n-butyl;

c) when R_5 is methyl, and R_2, R_3 and R_4 are H then R_1 is not pyrrolidin-1-ylmethyl, 3-tert-butyl-2-hydroxy-5-methyl-benzyl, methyl, or dimethylaminomethyl;

d) when R_5 is methyl, R_2 is carbomethoxy and R_3 and R_4 are both H then R_1 is not methyl;

e) when R_2, R_3, R_4 and R_5 are all H then R_1 is not 2-amino-2-carboxy-ethyl, pyrrolidin-1-ylmethyl, isopropyl, methyl, benzyl, n-butyl, or carboxymethyl; and

f) when R_2, R_4, and R_5 are all H and R_3 is methoxy then R_1 is not methyl.

2. (Previously presented) A compound according to claim 1 wherein:

R_1 is C_{3-6} cycloalkyl or C_{1-6} haloalkyl, where each C_{3-6} cycloalkyl or C_{1-6} haloalkyl group is optionally substituted with 1, 2, 3, or 4 substituents selected form the group consisting of C_{1-6} acyl, C_{1-6} acyloxy, C_{2-6} alkenyl, C_{1-6} alkoxy, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} alkylcarboxamido, C_{2-6} alkynyl, C_{1-6} alkylsulfinyl, C_{1-6} alkylsulfonyl, C_{1-6} alkylthio, C_{1-6} alkylureyl, amino, C_{1-6} alkylamino, C_{1-6} dialkylamino, carbo C_{1-6} alkoxy, carboxy, cyano, C_{3-6} cycloalkyl, C_{1-6} dialkylcarboxamido, halogen, C_{1-6} haloalkoxy, C_{1-6} haloalkyl, C_{1-6} haloalkylsulfinyl, C_{1-6} haloalkylsulfonyl, C_{1-6} haloalkylthio, hydroxyl, nitro and thiol;

R_2, R_3 and R_4 are each independently selected from the group consisting of H, C_{1-6} acyl, C_{1-6} acyloxy, C_{2-6} alkenyl, C_{1-6} alkoxy, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} alkylcarboxamido, C_{2-6} alkynyl, C_{1-6} alkylsulfinyl, C_{1-6} alkylsulfonyl, C_{1-6} alkylthio, C_{1-6} alkylureyl, amino, C_{1-6} alkylamino, C_{1-6} dialkylamino, carbo C_{1-6} alkoxy, carboxy, cyano, C_{3-6} cycloalkyl, C_{1-6} dialkylcarboxamido, halogen, C_{1-6} haloalkoxy, C_{1-6} haloalkyl, C_{1-6} haloalkylsulfinyl, C_{1-6} haloalkylsulfonyl, C_{1-6} haloalkylthio, hydroxyl, nitro or thiol; and

R_5 is H or C_{1-6} alkyl; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, solvate or hydrate thereof.

3. (Currently amended) The compound according to claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, solvate or hydrate thereof, wherein R_5 is C_{1-6} alkyl.

4. (Currently amended) The compound according to claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, solvate or hydrate thereof, wherein R_5 is H.

5. (Currently amended) The compound according to claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, solvate or hydrate thereof, wherein R_2, R_3 and R_4 are each independently H or halogen.

6. (Currently amended) The compound according to claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, solvate or hydrate thereof, wherein R_2, R_3 and R_4 are each independently H or F.

7. (Currently amended) The compound according to claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, solvate or hydrate thereof, wherein R_1 is C_{1-8} alkyl optionally substituted with 1, 2, 3 or 4 substituents selected from the group consisting of C_{2-6} alkenyl, C_{1-6} alkoxy, C_{2-6} alkynyl, C_{1-6} alkylsulfinyl, C_{1-6} alkylsulfonyl, C_{1-6} alkylthio, aryl, substituted aryl, C_{3-6} cycloalkyl, halogen, C_{1-6} haloalkoxy, C_{1-6} haloalkylsulfinyl, C_{1-6} haloalkylsulfonyl, C_{1-6} haloalkylthio, heteroaryl, heterocyclyl, and hydroxyl.

8. (Currently amended) The compound according to claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, solvate or hydrate thereof, wherein R_1 is selected from the group consisting of 2-butyl, 3-pentyl, 1-propyl, t-butyl, 1-butyl, 4-Methyl-pentyl, 3-methyl-butyl, 1,3-dimethyl-butyl, 3,3-dimethyl-butyl, 1-heptyl, ethyl, 2,2-dimethyl-propyl, and 1-pentyl.

9. (Currently amended) The compound according to claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, solvate or bydrate thereof, wherein R_1 is selected from the group consisting of 3-methoxy-benzyl, 4-methoxy-benzyl, 4-methoxy-phenyl ethyl, 3-methoxy-phenyl ethyl, 3,5-difluorobenzyl, and benzhydryl.

10. (Currently amended) The compound according to claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, solvate or hydrate thereof, wherein R_1 is selected from the group consisting of 3-isopropoxypropyl, tetrahydro-furan-2-ylmethyl, 2-methoxy-ethyl, 2-ethylsulfanyl-ethyl, 3-

hydroxy-propyl, allyl, cyclopropylmethyl, but-2-ynyl, 2-methoxy-1-methyl-ethyl, 2-hydroxy-1-hydroxymethyl-ethyl, 2-ethoxy-ethyl, and 1,2-dimethyl-propyl.

11. (Currently amended) The compound according to claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, solvate or hydrate thereof, wherein R_1 is selected from the group consisting of cyclopentyl, cyclohexyl, cyclopropyl, and cyclobutyl.

12. (Currently amended) The compound according to claim 1 selected from the group consisting of:

1-Cyclopentyl-1H-benzotriazole-5-carboxylic acid;
1-(2'-Butyl)-1H-benzotriazole-5-carboxylic acid;
1-(3'-Pentyl)-1H-benzotriazole-5-carboxylic acid;
1-Cyclohexyl-1H-benzotriazole-5-carboxylic acid
1-Propyl-1H-benzotriazole-5-carboxylic acid;
1-Cyclopropyl-1H-benzotriazole-5-carboxylic acid;
1-(3'-Isopropoxy-propyl)-1H-benzotriazole-5-carboxylic acid;
1-(Tetrahydro-furan-2'-ylmethyl)-1H-benzotriazole-5-carboxylic acid;
1-Cyclobutyl-1H-benzotriazole-5-carboxylic acid;
1-(2-Methoxy-ethyl)-1H-benzotriazole-5-carboxylic acid;
1-(3'Methoxybenzyl)-1H-benzotriazole-5-carboxylic acid;
1-(4'Methoxybenzyl)-1H-benzotriazole-5-carboxylic acid;
1-[2'-(4''-Methoxy-phenyl)-ethylamino]-1H-benzotriazole-5-carboxylic acid;
1-[2'-(3''-Methoxy-phenyl)-ethylamino]-1H-benzotriazole-5-carboxylic acid;
1-(3',5'-Difluorobenzyl)-1H-benzotriazole-5-carboxylic acid;
1-(2-Ethylsulfanyl-ethyl)-1H-benzotriazole-5-carboxylic acid;
1-t-Butyl-1H-benzotriazole-5-carboxylic acid;
1-(3'-Hydroxy-propyl)-1H-benzotriazole-5-carboxylic acid;
1-(1',3'-Dimethyl-butyl)-1H-benzotriazole-5-carboxylic acid;
1-(3',3'-Dimethyl-butyl)-1H-benzotriazole-5-carboxylic acid;
1-Heptyl-1H-benzotriazole-5-carboxylic acid;
1-(2'-Methoxy-1'-methyl-ethyl)-1H-benzotriazole-5-carboxylic acid;

1-(2'-Hydroxy-1'-hydroxymethyl-ethyl)-1H-benzotriazole-5-carboxylic acid;

1-Ethyl-1H-benzotriazole-5-carboxylic acid;

1-Pentyl-1H-benzotriazole-5-carboxylic acid;

1-(2',2'-Dimethyl-propyl)-1H-benzotriazole-5-carboxylic acid;

1-(2'-Ethoxy-ethyl)-1H-benzotriazole-5-carboxylic acid;

1-(1',2'-Dimethyl-propyl)-1H-benzotriazole-5-carboxylic acid;

1-Benzhydryl-1H-benzotriazole-5-carboxylic acid;

1-Allyl-1H-benzotriazole-5-carboxylic acid;

~~1-Butyl-1H-benzotriazole-5-carboxylic acid;~~

1-(Cyclopropylmethyl)-1H-benzotriazole-5-carboxylic acid;

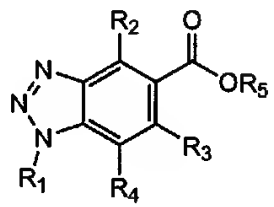
1-(But-2-ynyl)-1H-benzotriazole-5-carboxylic acid;

1-(4'-Methyl-pentyl)-1H-benzotriazole-5-carboxylic acid; and

1-(3'-Methyl-butyl)-1H-benzotriazole-5-carboxylic acid; or

a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, solvate or hydrate thereof.

13. (Previously presented) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound according to Formula (I):



(I)

wherein:

R_1 is H, C_{1-8} alkyl, C_{3-6} cycloalkyl or C_{1-6} haloalkyl, wherein each C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{3-6} cycloalkyl or C_{1-6} haloalkyl group is optionally substituted with 1, 2, 3, or 4 substitutents selected from the group consisting of C_{1-6} acyl, C_{1-6} acyloxy, C_{2-6} alkenyl, C_{1-6} alkoxy, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} alkylcarboxamido, C_{2-6} alkynyl, C_{1-6} alkylsulfinyl, C_{1-6} alkylsulfonyl, C_{1-6} alkylthio, C_{1-6} alkylureyl, amino, C_{1-6} alkylamino, C_{1-6} dialkylamino, carbo C_{1-6} alkoxy, carboxy, cyano, C_{3-6} cycloalkyl, C_{1-6} dialkylcarboxamido, halogen, C_{1-6} haloalkoxy, C_{1-6} haloalkyl, C_{1-6} haloalkylsulfinyl, C_{1-6} haloalkylsulfonyl, C_{1-6} haloalkylthio, hydroxyl, nitro or thiol;

R_2, R_3 and R_4 are each independently selected from the group consisting of H, C_{1-6} acyl, C_{1-6} acyloxy, C_{2-6} alkenyl, C_{1-6} alkoxy, C_{1-6} alkyl, C_{1-6} alkylcarboxamido, C_{2-6} alkynyl, C_{1-6} alkylsulfinyl, C_{1-6} alkylsulfonyl, C_{1-6} alkylthio, C_{1-6} alkylureyl, amino, C_{1-6} alkylamino, C_{1-6} dialkylamino, carbo C_{1-6} alkoxy, carboxy, cyano, C_{3-6} cycloalkyl, C_{1-6} dialkylcarboxamido, halogen, C_{1-6} haloalkoxy, C_{1-6} haloalkyl, C_{1-6} haloalkylsulfinyl, C_{1-6} haloalkylsulfonyl, C_{1-6} haloalkylthio, hydroxyl, nitro or thiol; and

R_5 is H or C_{1-6} alkyl; or

a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, solvate or hydrate thereof, in combination with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

14. (Original) A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 13 further comprising an agent selected from the group consisting of α-glucosidase inhibitor, aldose reductase inhibitor, biguanide, HMG-CoA reductase inhibitor, squalene synthesis inhibitor, fibrate, LDL catabolism enhancer, angiotensin converting enzyme inhibitor, insulin secretion enhancer and thiazolidinedione.

15-19. (Canceled)

20. (Currently amended) A method of treatment of a metabolic-related disorder selected from the group consisting of dyslipidemia, atherosclerosis, coronary heart disease, insulin resistance and type 2 diabetes comprising administering to an individual in need of such treatment a therapeutically effective amount of a pharmaceutical composition according to claim 13.

21-25. (Canceled)

26. (Currently amended) A method of treatment of a metabolic-related disorder selected from the group consisting of dyslipidemia, atherosclerosis, coronary heart disease, insulin resistance and type 2 diabetes comprising administering to an individual in need of such treatment a therapeutically effective amount of a compound according to claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, solvate or hydrate thereof.

27. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 26 wherein said metabolic-related disorder is ~~selected from the group consisting of~~ dyslipidemia~~, atherosclerosis, coronary heart disease, insulin resistance and type 2 diabetes~~.

28. (Previously presented) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 13 wherein said compound is selected from the group consisting of:

1-Isopropyl-1H-benzotriazole-5-carboxylic acid;

1-Cyclopentyl-1H-benzotriazole-5-carboxylic acid;

1-(2'-Butyl)-1H-benzotriazole-5-carboxylic acid;

1-(3'-Pentyl)-1H-benzotriazole-5-carboxylic acid;

1-Benzyl-1H-benzotriazole-5-carboxylic acid;

1-Cyclohexyl-1H-benzotriazole-5-carboxylic acid

1-Propyl-1H-benzotriazole-5-carboxylic acid;

1-Cyclopropyl-1H-benzotriazole-5-carboxylic acid;

1-(3'-Isopropoxy-propyl)-1H-benzotriazole-5-carboxylic acid;

1-(Tetrahydro-furan-2'-ylmethyl)-1H-benzotriazole-5-carboxylic acid;

1-Cyclobutyl-1H-benzotriazole-5-carboxylic acid;

1-(2-Methoxy-ethyl)-1H-benzotriazole-5-carboxylic acid;

1-(3'Methoxybenzyl)-1H-benzotriazole-5-carboxylic acid;

1-(4'Methoxybenzyl)-1H-benzotriazole-5-carboxylic acid;

1-[2'-(4''-Methoxy-phenyl)-ethylamino]-1H-benzotriazole-5-carboxylic acid;

1-[2'-(3''-Methoxy-phenyl)-ethylamino]-1H-benzotriazole-5-carboxylic acid;

1-(3',5'-Difluorobenzyl)-1H-benzotriazole-5-carboxylic acid;

1-(2-Ethylsulfanyl-ethyl)-1H-benzotriazole-5-carboxylic acid;

1-t-Butyl-1H-benzotriazole-5-carboxylic acid;

1-(3'-Hydroxy-propyl)-1H-benzotriazole-5-carboxylic acid;

1-(1',3'-Dimethyl-butyl)-1H-benzotriazole-5-carboxylic acid;

1-(3',3'-Dimethyl-butyl)-1H-benzotriazole-5-carboxylic acid;

1-Heptyl-1H-benzotriazole-5-carboxylic acid;

1-(2'-Methoxy-1'-methyl-ethyl)-1H-benzotriazole-5-carboxylic acid;

1-(2'-Hydroxy-1'-hydroxymethyl-ethyl)-1H-benzotriazole-5-carboxylic acid;

1-Ethyl-1H-benzotriazole-5-carboxylic acid;

1-Pentyl-1H-benzotriazole-5-carboxylic acid;

1-(2',2'-Dimethyl-propyl)-1H-benzotriazole-5-carboxylic acid;

1-(2'-Ethoxy-ethyl)-1H-benzotriazole-5-carboxylic acid;

1-(1',2'-Dimethyl-propyl)-1H-benzotriazole-5-carboxylic acid;

1-Benzhydryl-1H-benzotriazole-5-carboxylic acid;

1-Allyl-1H-benzotriazole-5-carboxylic acid;

1-Butyl-1H-benzotriazole-5-carboxylic acid;

1-(Cyclopropylmethyl)-1H-benzotriazole-5-carboxylic acid;

1-(But-2-ynyl)-1H-benzotriazole-5-carboxylic acid;

1-(4'-Methyl-pentyl)-1H-benzotriazole-5-carboxylic acid; and

1-(3'-Methyl-butyl)-1H-benzotriazole-5-carboxylic acid; or

a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, solvate or hydrate thereof.

29. (New) A method according to claim 26 wherein said metabolic-related disorder is atherosclerosis.